(*a*) recognised vaidyans;
(*b*) vaidyans in charge of vaidyasalas who receive grant;
(*c*) vaidyans in charge of Ayurveda hospitals receiving grant?

MR. R. KRISHNASWAMI RAO: *Statements required are laid on the table.

Co-operative Societies in the Coastal Villages.

111. *MR. E. P. VARGHESE (*Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertala*): Will the Government be pleased to state the number of co-operative societies now in working order in the coastal villages of Trivandrum Division?

MR. P. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Registrar of Co-operative Societies*): 13.

Depredations of wild elephants in certain pakuthies of the Nedumangad taluk.

112. *MR. M. RAMAIAH PILLAI (*Chirayinkil* cum *Nedumangad*): With reference to the measures adopted for the protection of the ryots of certain pakuthies of Nedumangad taluk from the depredations of wild elephants, will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received representations from the people of the taluk that the operations now carried on are not adequate or efficient enough;

(*b*) whether there have recently been several instances of wild elephants escaping from the pits dug to catch them;

(*c*) whether steps have been taken to prevent such escapes of wild elephants from the pits; and

(*d*) whether in the localities, *viz.*, Thenmala, Pannkuzhi, Puzhupara, Kottapara, Vayalipulla and Malayamtheri, where extensive devastation is done by wild elephants, there are no operations carried on to catch the wild elephants or to protect the ryots from their havoc?

MR. P. RAMAN PILLAI: (*a*) One petition was received from the member.

(*b*) There was one instance of a rogue tusker falling into the pits and escaping as it was too big for the pits.

(*c*) It is not possible to prevent the escape of such huge animals.

(*d*) Elephant pits were made this year in Kottur side where damages by wild elephants were more complained of. It is not possible to conduct capturing operations all of a sudden at every place where wild elephants are seen, as they are naturally roaming from one locality to another.

MR. M. RAMAIAH PILLAI. May I know why deep pits are not dug to avoid the escape of even the bigger elephants.

MR. P. RAMAN PILLAI: The liklihood of the animal escaping is greater in bigger pits than in smaller ones.

Vide Appendices II, III and IV Page 371-372.

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